

Councilwoman Bonner and the Town Board Honor Rocky Point Middle School GearHeadz on their FIRST LEGO League LI Championship Title

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Farmingville, NY – At the May 12 Town Board meeting, the Rocky Point Middle School robotics team, the GearHeadz, were honored by Councilwoman Jane Bonner and the Town Board. The GearHeadz, led by Chris Pinkenburg, a physicist at Brookhaven National Lab, claimed second place at the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO League Long Island Championship Tournament title. As a result, the team was once again invited to the North American Open Championship in California on May 20-22.

The GearHeadz created a unique and durable biodegradable shopping bag, which is digestible and degrades in water over a period of one month. The bag was created after extensive trials and errors, which they documented throughout the course of their research. The strong shopping bag is made completely out of environmentally-friendly waste products. It is designed to prevent the mass death of sea turtles and other marine life from the accidental ingestion of non-biodegradable plastics.

Councilwoman Bonner stated, "These students are truly amazing. Marine life around the world has been suffering the negative effects of plastic bags in our environment for years. These students saw the need, and through research, technology and teamwork, developed an outstanding solution. I commend the GearHeadz team on a job well done."

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